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## Endeavour receives OBSS, Discovery gets new tiles

◆ **Shuttle Update:** Endeavour remains in Orbiter Processing Facility bay 2, and technicians continue preparing the vehicle for its first launch in more than four years. The vehicle has undergone an extensive modification period, including the addition of all of the return-to-flight safety upgrades added to both Discovery and Atlantis.

Last week, technicians completed checkout of the trajectory control sensor system, and the payload pre-mate testing is finished. Preparations are under way for the installation of the orbiter boom sensor system, which is a 50-foot extension for the shuttle's robotic arm. The waste contamination system checkout is complete. Testing of the aerosurface control system has also concluded. This involved moving flight control systems such as the elevons, body flap and rudder speed brake using the hydraulic systems.

Processing of **Discovery**, which returned from the STS-116 mission on Dec. 22, continues in Orbiter Processing Facility bay 3. Work on the installation of the new Station to Shuttle Power Transfer System continues in the forward, mid-body and aft sections of the vehicle. This system will allow the orbiter and International Space Station to share power, which will enable the orbiter to remain docked for longer periods of time.

Work is also under way to prepare for the installation of fuel cell No. 2. Technicians continue replacing thermal tile around the main landing gear door and the external tank doors with a stronger tile, known as BRI.

◆ **ISS Update:** On March 29, the station's current residents will take a short ride in the Soyuz TMA-9 spacecraft now docked at the complex. Soyuz Commander Mikhail Tyurin, Expedition 14 Commander Michael Lopez-Alegria and Flight Engineer Suni Williams will move the Soyuz from an Earth-facing docking port on the Zarya module to a docking port at the aft of the Zvezda module. The half-hour flight will be broadcast live on NASA TV, beginning at 5 p.m.

The Soyuz move frees the Zarya docking port for the arrival of the Expedition 15 crew, set to launch April 7 in a Soyuz from the Baikonur Cosmodrome, Kazakhstan. Expedition 15 Commander Fyodor Yurchikhin, Flight Engineer and Soyuz Commander Oleg Kotov and spaceflight participant Charles Simonyi will dock to the station April 9. Lopez-Alegria, Tyurin and Simonyi will return to Earth April 20 in a Soyuz.

Williams will remain with Yurchikhin and Kotov as a member of the Expedition 15 mission.

■ **March Is Women's History Month** — This year, "Generations of

## ISS crew prepares for Soyuz, new crew arrival

Women Moving History Forward" is the theme for Women's History Month. The National Women's History Project Web site offers historical and current information about women who have actively sought to improve the status of women in society, both in the United States and around the world. The Web site address is [nwhp.org](http://nwhp.org). The Space Coast Chapter of Federally Employed Women's Web site address is [ksc.nasa.gov/groups/few/](http://ksc.nasa.gov/groups/few/).

### ■ KSC Fitness Center Presents W.O.W., or Wellness of the World

— This is a 15-week program encompassing all aspects of wellness from cardiovascular health to nutritional information and even stress management. Each week, you and your teammate will virtually travel to new, exciting and exotic places upon completion of your exercise activities. Application packets will be available **only** at the KSC Fitness Centers in the OSB or O&C through March 29. Hours are 5:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Applications are due back by the end of the business day on March 30. The chosen applicants will be informed by the end of the day on April 5.

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